Review of the Month • *School Crisis Grips City of New Orleans*

Four little Negro girls inched integration a step forward, entering the first grade of two previously white schools in New Orleans, the first Deep South city to begin school desegregation. Segregationists organized street mobs; the state legislature passed new laws. But Federal courts stood firm, and a sizeable section of the population was determined to keep public education.

However, there was a white boycott of the two schools. A group of courageous parents were struggling to break it, but they were beset by threats, intimidation, vandalism, and economic pressure.

Almost unnoticed by the press, thousands of college students demonstrated throughout the nation on Election Day in support of civil rights, responding to a call by the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. The press did note that the Negro vote played a decisive role in the presidential election.

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that it was illegal for Tuskegee, Ala., to gerrymander its borders to eliminate Negro voters. The Court also outlawed discrimination against Negroes in restaurants regularly serving interstate bus travelers. A U.S. Court of Appeals upheld a grade-a-year school desegregation plan to start in Dallas next fall.

And "No Christmas Buying" campaigns spread, under leadership of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and the NAACP, to protest continued discrimination by Southern retailers. (See poem below.)

You Can Write

Names of the four little girls pioneering New Orleans school integration are withheld for their protection, but you can write them care of Attorney A. P. Tureaud, 1821 Orleans Ave., or SCEF, 822 Perdido St., New Orleans.

The Southern PATRIOT

Vol. 18, No. 10

Dec., 1960

Published by the Southern Conference Educational Fund, Inc.

First All-White Student Action

THEY MADE HISTORY IN ATLANTA

BY JANE STEMBRIDGE

(The writer of this article, a native white Southerner, was recently a student herself.)

ATLANTA, Ga.—Atlanta was under truce on Election Day. The Negro students were not demonstrating while Mayor Hartsfield negotiated with store managers.

But at 6:55 a.m., 12 college students quietly unloaded themselves from cars and began a silent walk along the sidewalk . . . 150 feet from Ponce de Leon School, a major DeKalb County precinct.

It happened again, late in the afternoon, at another precinct, the Druid Hills High School.

They were white students, 13 in all, ten from Emory University and three from Agnes Scott College. None represented their school or any organization but acted as individuals. Their signs said: "All Have the Right to Vote" . . . "Legislate Civil Rights" . . .

Nobody much cared; not even the press. Old news. Too cold. . . . Or else people cannot face Truth . . .

The truth for history was that these students were the first all-white student demonstration for civil rights in the Deep South. They were white Southerners who had come out while it was still dark and stayed until it was dark again to witness to the evil of segregation.

It seems to me that the student movement is about integration and that is about the coming together, in understanding, of two peoples. In this case, it is the coming together of Negro and white people — for our mutual growth as persons first, as citizens of the New South and America.

The action of these Southern white students is as significant as the first sit-in by Negro students last February 1. It is the coming together not just in meetings and talk, but in open action . . . it is Truth because the students said to the Negroes, "I am a white Southerner . . . but you are right."

Their walk ended the era begun when Montgomery Negroes walked alone back in '56 . . . and it heralded the coming of the New South.

A Vacation Lasts Too Long

The Nation's Tragedy: P. E. County

BY LEN HOLT

(As the New Orleans school crisis brings the school integration struggle back into the spotlight, it is past time to remember again the tragedy of Prince Edward County, Virginia, the only community in the nation where today there are no public schools. This account is written by a Norfolk civil rights attorney who recently visited there.)

—photo by Len Holt

BOOTSIE BURRELL STUDIES HIS NUMBERS

FARMVILLE, Va. — "Mama, school's out!" shouted joyous voices—including that of 7-year-old Orlando "Bootsie" Burrell—at the end of school in the summer of 1959. Like every other school age kid in Prince Edward County, Va., he was happy.

That was almost two years ago. All of the then-important fishing, vacationing, visiting and just plain loafing has been done, and done again.

There has been plenty of time because ever since then Prince Edward County schools have been closed, as local officials chose to give up public education rather than comply with a court order to integrate.

It is America's most expensive monument to segregation.

As one goes into Prince Edward County and its center, Farmville, one is greeted with gaunt buildings being crowded out of view by tall weeds and some designated by signs which read: "School Property, No Trespassing."

While many of the 1,200 white students attend make-shift classes in churches and lodge halls which employ 66 teachers, the bulk of the 1,700 Negro stludents have nothing but hope.

There's hope that a suit now pending in Federal District Court in Richmond will force county officials to open the public schools. There is hope that the American Friends Service Committee will find placement for more in northern homes.

There is hope that money will be found to maintain "training centers" set up by the Negro community last year. When I was in Farmville early this fall, they had not reopened because funds were short.

(The training centers, usually located in churches, were never intended to serve as schools but were designed to give youngsters continued experience in group activity while they await the resumption of their education.)

But most of all there is hope that the county will come to its senses.

Though most of the colored parents are in the low income bracket—domestics, porters, small farmers, and tobacco workers — and possess very limited educa-

(Continued on Page 4)

Christmas: 1960

If you're wondering what to give
At this season of largesse
Do not shop the crowded stores
Do not put your purse to stress

Find me, rather, something rare
Something money will not buy—
An unarmed truce, an honest press
A thinking man, a smogless sky

Send the text of practiced preachings
Gleaned from pulpit, poll or school
Wrap the lot in courthouse bonds
Issued on the Golden Rule

But in the lack of gifts so nice
Simple silence will suffice.

—Alfred Maund

A Southern Profile

She Pioneered for Freedom

BY WILLSON WHITMAN

(Miss Whitman is a North Carolina author and editor. She is an SCEF board member, as is Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown.)

"I'm a proud Negro. And I've had a wonderful life, a happy life. I have so much to be grateful for."

Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, president emerita of Palmer Memorial Institute at Sedalia, N.C., is speaking, in a clear low voice that combines the softness of the South with just a trace of the Boston A.

Dr. Brown is one of those pioneers who helped to lay the groundwork for the present struggles for freedom in the South. Slim and erect at 77, she is living proof of what can be accomplished when intelligence and good will tackle the difficulties that beset interracial progress.

For in a cultural sense, Palmer Institute is interracial as well as interdenominational. It is true that the student body at present, as well as the faculty, is entirely Negro. But Dr. Brown will tell you that her own life and the progress of the school have evinced a steadfast determination to break all barriers to Negro education while maintaining friendly and dignified relations with enlightened white people.

TRIBUTE is paid Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown on her 54th anniversary as founder of Palmer Institute. The church on top of the cake represents the original home of the school.

Dr. Brown's drawing room at Sedalia could be that of a "proper Bostonian." There are the prints of Sargent's Frieze of the Prophets, beloved by patrons of the Boston Public Library; there are the Pilgrims going to church through the snow; and on the bookshelves are the Harvard Classics.

Dr. Brown was graduated from high school in Cambridge, Mass., and won a scholarship at Wellesley. Her teacher's training was in the Massachusetts State Teachers College. In addition she holds a number of honorary degrees.

But she will tell you, with characteristic frankness and pride in obstacles surmounted, that her grandmother was a slave.

(Continued on Page 3)

The Southern Patriot

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VOL. 18, No. 10 — Dec. 1960

News In Brief

A strong call for action against segregation was issued by 10,000 delegates at the International Convention of Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ) in Louisville, Ky. The Disciples also issued a list of Louisville restaurants known to discriminate and told their white delegates to "let their conscience be their guide" as to whether to patronize them.

* * * *

In Miami, a well-known liberal, Jack Gordon, won election to the School Board. He was supported by liberal and integrationist groups.

* * * *

In Emporia, Va., a three-judge circuit court dismissed charges of unprofessional conduct against an NAACP attorney, Samuel W. Tucker. The charges had been brought by the state bar and stemmed from his participation in three NAACP cases dating back to 1949. He had full backing of the NAACP in fighting the charges. (See February, 1960, *Patriot.*)

* * * *

In Raleigh, N.C., friends mourned the passing of Mrs. Marian Rubins Davis, long a staunch worker for civil rights and civil liberties. She was the wife of Prof. Horace Davis and the mother of Dr. H. Chandler Davis, noted mathematician and a central figure in the current struggle to preserve the First Amendment.

* * * *

In Virginia, the bulletin the Virginia Council on Human Relations reported that when the schools of Galax and Grayson County, Va., were closed briefly to avoid integration this fall, 1900 white parents signed a petition to reopen them.

* * * *

In Mississippi, 5,000 students signed a statement calling on Negroes to boycott the annual State Fair. The fair operates one week for whites, then one week for Negroes.

* * * *

In Louisville, Ky., CORE students are conducting regular stand-ins at the tea room of the city's leading department store.

Due Credit

Many readers have complimented the new "flag" (front page title) which the Patriot is now using. Credit goes to Rollin C. Smith, Jr., of a New York advertising agency, who designed the new flag as a contribution to the Patriot and SCEF. He was assisted by Mrs. Ingeborg Baton.

Little Rock: Another Victim

Last month, the *Southern Patriot* reported the death of David Ogden which resulted, although indirectly, from the Little Rock school crisis of 1957.

Soon thereafter came word of the death of Alex Wilson, since 1959 editor-in-chief of the *Chicago Daily Defender.*

Wilson was one of four Negro newspapermen who were beaten by a mob while covering events at Little Rock's Central High School in 1957. He was editor of the Tri-State Defender in Memphis at that time.

He was 46 at the time of his death. *The Chicago Defender* reported: "He died . . . three weeks after an operation to alleviate a nervous condition aggravated by the beating he suffered at the hands of the white mob . . . in Little Rock . . ."

Wilson had a distinguished journalistic career. He won the Wendell Willkie award in Negro Journalism in 1950. He covered many famous stories, North and South. After the mob attack in 1957, he wrote: "I was abused—the victim of misguided violence, but I am not bitter."

—Chicago Defender Photo

Alex Wilson

Book Notes

Story of 'A Poor White Boy'

BY P. L. PRATTIS
(Editor, Pittsburgh Courier)

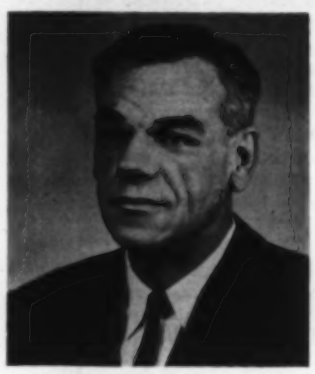
THE MAGNOLIA JUNGLE, by P. D. EAST, Simon & Schuster, 630 Fifth Ave., New York 20, N.Y., $3.95.

In this book, P. D. East, publisher and editor of the quizzical, gamboling and rapturously rollicking *Petal Paper* of Hattiesburg, Miss., has written his heart *in* and *out.*

With grunt-and chuckle-producing humor, he dissects and analyzes himself, the whole of him. He defines a man who has never understood himself except that he has always tried to understand his own behaviour and that of others.

In a sense, this means that P. D. East has never taken anything for granted, not even God. He has had to find good and evil for himself. Vaguely, he has always been searching, in a confused sort of way, for truth, honesty, decency.

Even as a not-too-bright school kid, he was befuddled by the (to him) inconsistent behaviour of the poor and ignorant, and the cheaters, around him. The older he grew the more he brooded against conformity.



P. D. East

Now 40 years old, P. D. East has written the story of his life, a sort of case history of a poor white boy reared among poor whites in Mississippi. Despite his doubts about mankind in general, he was doing rather well with his *Petal Paper* until the Supreme Court decision against school segregation in 1954.

He was no Negrophile then, and he isn't today. But he was against human beings making fools of themselves. That brought him into competition with the White Citizens Councils. Circulation and advertising of the *Petal Paper* zoomed to zero in Petal and environs, but spread throughout the country and the world.

Important is the fact that East, though not exactly a poor white by birth, was reared by God-fearing poor whites and brought up among them. Today, he challenges the titans of white supremacy in Mississippi, the Magnolia Jungle.

In so doing, he just happens to be making common cause with other children of God who were born black. He calls himself a coward, but he isn't. He stands (or sits) staunchly in Petal, Miss., loving (or respecting) his neighbor as himself.

Chances are that P. D. could be rescued from the Magnolia Jungle, but here's a man who's going to stick with his real estate and his convictions.

Treasure Chest Of Inspiration

A treasure chest of provocative thinking is offered in eight booklets presenting the proceedings of recent Valparaiso University Annual Human Relations Institutes.

Included are such topics as "Interracial Marriage," treated by biologist, sociologist, and theologian. Authors include such authorities as Herman Long, Marguerite Cartwright, Alvin Walcott Rose, Charles and Margaret Lawrence, and the Rev. Robert Graetz, white minister who discusses his part in the Montgomery bus protest.

A packet of eight booklets, with full texts of speeches, may be ordered for $3 from Lutheran Human Relations Association of America, Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Ind.

Good Listening

The Nashville Sit-In Story, An LP Recording, Issued by Folkways Records, 117 W. 46th St., New York, N. Y., $3.

This recording by Folk Singer Guy Carawan and the Nashville students takes the listener into the heart of the sit-in struggle. The story of last spring's successful integration drive is told by dramatic episode, simple narration, and haunting music. Two songs alone would make it worth more than the price—"We Shall Overcome" (theme of the student movement) and "They Go Wild Over Me."

Civil Rights Law for the Layman

CIVIL RIGHTS AND STATES' RIGHTS, by JUNE PURCELL GUILD, Published by Virginia State Conference, NAACP, 404½ N. Second St., Richmond, Va., $2.

This is a book on civil rights law, written simply for the layman. The author, an expert on constitutional law, punctures many myths about states' rights.

Mrs. Guild, who has had careers as a lawyer, an author, and a social worker, has been a "Southerner by choice" since 1925. Now a resident of Richmond, Va., she serves on the boards of the NAACP and Urban League there and is a member of the SCEF board and the Virginia Council on Human Relations.

Mrs. Guild

A Different View of Houston

The following are excerpts from a letter to the *Patriot* from the Rev. Alfred M. Dorsett, of the Gulf Coast Presbytery, Presbyterian Church, Houston:

"I have worked for integration in Houston for many years and have been a member of the pioneer group, Council for Education in Race Relations . . .

"The article in your November edition, 'Small Boy Scares Officials,' by Mildred Hirsh reaches a very low level of accusation, innuendo, and downright misrepresentation, and I'm sick about it . . . .

"For goodness sake, quit that sort of thing! Let's be honest with people who are doing their dead level best to solve a problem that is very explosive . . . .

"An all time low in implying guilt is the paragraph, 'Finally on September 9, Tyronne made it. He was admitted, however gingerly . . . .' What does she mean 'gingerly'? What did she expect—a parade, with mobs shouting and throwing stones?

"If 'gingerly' means he was admitted in any other manner than were the other 24 or 25 pupils in the room, she is dead wrong.

He was admitted as a human being, opening a breach in a solid wall, and he was admitted with the honor and dignity due a small boy seeking an education. Now, let us thank God for that.

"However limited the integration may be, *Houston schools are integrated,* and I, for one, thank God that it was conducted in such a manner that we were spared the outrages that are publicized around the world. More will come . . . we who believe in this cause enough to keep working for it will someday see it come, in large scale . . ."

MRS. HIRSH REPLIES

The *Patriot* asked Mrs. Hirsh to comment on this criticism. She wrote:

"I am sure Mr. Dorsett knows from the tone of my article that I did not want mobs and a parade to greet Tyronne Day. But must we in Houston congratulate ourselves because we did not behave as the worst trouble spots in the South?

"Would it not be better to ask ourselves self-critically why we did not do as well as we could have done?

"Houston citizens would have accepted much more integration if strong moral leadership had come from our School Board. I do not agree that Tyronne Day was admitted in the same manner as the other children in his room. He could not have been when he was a "token" reluctantly admitted.

"I am sorry Mr. Dorsett thinks I was unfair to our Board. But I am convinced that token integration is a mockery of the law and all that is right, and furthermore it is cruel to the children who must be the tokens. I think we should oppose it—by ridicule and in every other possible way.

"Experience in other states shows that more integration does not come naturally from such a beginning—not unless people get out and work hard for it, realizing that token integration is the device sophisticated segregationists are using to avoid a real change."

How It's Done

2000 Voters Added to Rolls

(By Special Correspondent)

COLUMBIA, S.C.—A pilot project recently completed in South Carolina is an indication of what can be done by intensive work in the field of voter registration.

More than 2,000 Negroes were added to the voter rolls during a 3½-month campaign in 22 counties.

Mr. Robinson

The project was led by a team of four paid full-time workers, headed by Frank B. Robinson of Sumter, 42-year-old contractor and president of the Sumter County Voters League. He had 12 years' experience as a volunteer worker for civil rights.

Fulltime workers who assisted him were Miss Catherine Peppers, president of the Student Council of South Carolina State College; the Rev. Moses Javis, Benedict College, Columbia; and Thomas Gaither, graduate of Claflin College, Orangeburg, S.C. (now a field secretary for CORE).

The four enlisted the help of 627 volunteers, including many college and high school students, and estimate that they contacted between 38,000 and 40,000 persons during the campaign.

The project was made possible by a subsidy from SCEF, and the work was planned by a group of South Carolina civil rights leaders, including Mrs. Modjeska Simkins, SCEF vice-president. Many local and state organizations cooperated.

As in all Southern states, there have been campaigns in South Carolina to increase the Negro vote for 10 years or more. Organizations working in the field have included the NAACP, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Highlander Folk School, CORE, the South Carolina Council on Human Relations, the Palmetto Voters League, and SCEF.

Explaining the most recent project, SCEF Director James A. Dombrowski said:

"Our thought was that in 10 years of effort the know-how had been worked out. What was needed was to make the information available to more communities, and especially to bring more man-power into the picture."

Reporting to the fall meeting of the SCEF board, Frank Robinson said he and the other fulltime and volunteer workers did door-to-door canvassing, spoke at churches and other meetings, held instruction clinics, distributed literature, provided transportation to registration places, and organized youth voting councils.

They concentrated in the rural areas where fear and intimidation have been widespread. Several times Robinson and his assistants were detained by police, but they continued their work.

Robinson said it was invaluable in such areas to have workers with economic independence come into communities.

"Many of the local leaders were willing and ready to work," he explained. "But they have to be careful because of their jobs. We were able to do what they couldn't. It gave the people courage to see us staying in their communities and working. This whole project has given Negroes in South Carolina new hope and determination to win their rights."

Robinson said over 100 "dedicated volunteer workers" agreed to carry on registration work on a volunteer basis after the project ended.

Ministers Act

HOPEWELL, Va. — Twelve white ministers here published an open letter in the community newspaper voicing disapproval of arrests of sit-in demonstrators and calling for a "better relationship between the races." They acted after the Hopewell Improvement Association had gathered names from the phone book to mail postcards to 2,000 white citizens urging them to "speak up" for racial justice.

Students On Move

Hundreds of Negro students from Lane College and Merry High School demonstrated peacefully at the courthouse in Jackson, Tenn., on Election Day, and 144 were arrested. It was a sympathy demonstration for nearby Haywood and Fayette Counties, where reprisals mount against Negro voters. (See page 4).

* * * *

In Atlanta, students resumed sit-ins and picketing against lunch-counter discrimination after failure of Mayor Hartsfield's efforts to negotiate with storeowners during a 30-day truce period.

Ku Klux Klan members came out in their robes and staged a counter-demonstration, but the student activity continued peacefully.

* * * *

The first break in Atlanta eating facility segregation came not in stores but in the YWCA. Five Negro and two white students sat in together at the Y cafeteria and were served without fanfare.

* * *

In Nashville, charges were dropped against students arrested in sit-ins last spring, but a new sit-in campaign started against establishments which still discriminate, and there was a new arrest.

Five Negro students and one white student were jailed after asking for service in a segregated restaurant. The white student was Richard Parker, visiting in Nashville soon after his release from a Jacksonville, Fla., jail for sit-in activity there. (See Nov. Patriot.)

* * * *

In Little Rock, a new lunch counter sit-in drive started, and seven Negro students from Philander Smith College were arrested at Woolworth.

(The Patriot is indebted for much of the student news in this issue to "The Student Voice," newsletter of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, 197½ Auburn Ave., N.E., Atlanta, Ga.

Xmas Drive

The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee called for a nationwide "Christmas Shopping Withholding Campaign" to protest discrimination in Deep South stores. The committee also asked Negro students traveling during vacation to use "white only" waiting rooms and to ride in the front of buses and asked white students to use "colored only" waiting rooms and ride in back of buses.

In High Point, N.C., high school students are standing-in at a segregated theatre.

Damage Suit Against Greyhound

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—The Rev. Fred L. Shuttlesworth has filed a $9 million damage suit against Greyhound Lines, Inc., on behalf of his daughter, Patricia. She and two other Shuttlesworth children were arrested in August when they refused to move to the back of a Greyhound bus.

The Rev. Wyatt Tee Walker, executive director of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference which announced the suit, said a nationwide boycott of Greyhound is in planning stage.

A Victory - - and A Partial Victory

Petersburg, Va., has reopened its library, closed since July, on an integrated basis. It was a victory for the Petersburg Improvement Association which had carried on a campaign against library segregation by sit-ins and lawsuit (see May Patriot).

Meantime, Danville, Va., also re-opened and integrated its closed library but instituted a "registration fee" and removed all tables and chairs. Commented the Richmond News-Leader:

"Harry Golden, the sage of Charlotte, must gaze in rapture on these tidings. When he devised the Golden Plan of Vertical Integration, he can't have imagined that anyone would take him seriously . . ."

Negro Educator Pioneered for Freedom

(Continued from Page 1)

When she was seven her family moved to Massachusetts, where her father and her uncles, skilled brick masons, could make the good wages paid white workmen.

It was 11 years before she came back to teach in the South. But those years prepared her to meet white people as friends and equals, for they had been her companions in the North.

"White friends in the North gave generously to found the school, but Southern white people helped us too," she recalls.

Across the road stands a little white wooden church, its walls hung with blackboards, where the first classes were held. Today the school property, free of debt, is valued at almost a million dollars.

The indomitable little woman, sitting on a piano bench and running smooth hands over the keyboard as she talks, did it all without compromising.

"Of course they started calling me Lottie when I came back to North Carolina," she remembers, "because they'd known my grandmother as Aunt Becky and my mother as Caroline."

But like Mary McLeod Bethune, who won her right to respectful address by a well-timed protest in Alabama, Charlotte Hawkins Brown in due time became Doctor Brown in North Carolina. Not too many people have five doctor's degrees.

And although Palmer Institute, as a privately-endowed school for Negroes, could stand aside from the present struggle, it is far too lively a place for that.

Tacked on a bulletin board in the library is a newspaper clipping that describes the recent arrest of one of the girl students: pretty Mary Sue Welcome spent three hours in Baltimore's Pine Street jail for participation in a restaurant sit-down.

Some years ago Dr. Brown wrote a little book about good manners which has had four printings, and Palmer students practice the etiquette she preached. But manners are reciprocal and white people are supposed to have them too.

Miss Wilhelmina Crosson, once a pupil in Dr. Brown's Sunday School class and now her successor as active head of the school, sees the need for change and also for preserving the values that, under Dr. Brown, made Palmer Institute unique.

Palmer Institute concerts have been given in Boston's Tremont Temple and Symphony Hall as well as in North Carolina. The concerts and Dr. Brown's lectures not only raised money but interested people. Nor was there any thought, certainly on the part of Northern friends, that schools such as Palmer would perpetuate segregation in the South.

Rather, with its own traditions as liberal as those of Harvard and Radcliffe and Wellesley, Palmer can claim a part in the education of Southern whites toward acceptance of their Negro neighbors as people of "background" and academic distinction, with whom it is pleasant and rewarding to work.

Subscription Blank

The Patriot is sent to all persons who give $2 or more annually to the Southern Conference Educational Fund.

I enclose_____, of which $2 is for Patriot sub.

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If you want to send Patriot to friends, enclose their names. Return form to:

SCEF
822 Perdido St.
New Orleans 12, La.

—Gunter Studio Photo

SCEF BOARD and Advisory Committee members, staff and friends gather at Fisk University in Nashville for fall meeting. Reading clockwise, including both foreground and background: Dr. Sherwood S. Davis, Texas; Dr. M. M. D. Perdue, Kentucky; the Rev. W. Howard Melish, New York; Ruben Fuller, South Carolina; Miss Doris Dennison, Tennessee; Mrs. William G. Gehri, West Virginia;

Mrs. Clarissa Campbell, Mississippi; Frank Robinson and Mrs. Modjeska Simkins, South Carolina; Dr. Herman H. Long, Tennessee; the Rev. Fred L. Shuttlesworth, Alabama; Mrs. M. M. D. Perdue, Kentucky; Aubrey W. Williams, Alabama; Donald Stephens, Delaware;

James A. Dombrowski, Louisiana; Dr. Charles G. Gomillion, Alabama; Dr. James L. Hupp, West Virginia; Mrs. Ingebord Stephens, Delaware; Carl and Anne Braden, Kentucky; Miss Alice Cobb, Tennessee; Dr. Lewis S. C. Smythe, Kentucky; Mrs. June Purcell Guild, Virginia; and Mrs. Frances Eaton, Mississippi.

A statement issued by the group called on all citizens of good will to protest increased jailing and harassment of Southern integrationists. New members elected to the board are Miss Ruby Berkley, social worker of Augusta, Ga.; Mrs. Ruth B. Luening, wife of the Unitarian minister in Memphis, Tenn.; and Mrs. Josephine Murphy, Atlanta University, president of Atlanta branch, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

Crisis Deepens in Tennessee

(By Staff Correspondent)

SOMERVILLE, TENN. — The plight of West Tennessee Negroes who register and vote is becoming more critical each day, as winter closes in. This is the situation:

1. Hundreds more Negro farmers have been ordered off the land because they registered and voted in Haywood and Fayette Counties. They will follow hundreds who have already been driven into exile or into living in tents.

2. John McFerren, Fayette County Negro leader, won his battle for gasoline last summer (see September *Patriot*), but another Negro leader in Fayette is unable to stock his service station or his grocery.

He is Scott Franklin, Route 2, Moscow, Tenn. He said Amoco took up his gasoline pumps about the same time McFerren's fuel supply was stopped. Nationwide protests forced oil companies to supply McFerren again, but Franklin is still deprived. This cuts off fuel and supplies to farmers in a wide area.

3. O'Dell Sanders, Haywood County Negro leader, has been forced to close his grocery in Brownsville. Thirty salesmen once called upon him, but they all quit within a two-week period under pressure from white landowners.

4. White landowners who refuse to join the boycott against Negro voters are subjected to economic reprisal and ostracism by members of their group.

5. Journalists trying to get facts about the situation are harassed by law officers. A correspondent for *The Southern Patriot* was stopped by the chief deputy sheriff in Fayette County. The deputy said he was looking for a burglary suspect. The correspondent was also taken into custody by the Haywood County sheriff but was later released.

Negro leaders say that a lawsuit filed by the Federal Government against officials in Haywood County has not had much effect in stopping the boycott. What is needed is criminal charges for violating the rights of American citizens.

In addition to the suit against officials, the U.S. Justice Department recently asked a court injunction to stop evictions in Haywood County. A hearing was set for December 19.

One Negro leader reported: "People living on the land 40, 50, and 60 years are being uprooted. They have no idea where they are going. The idea of the landowners is to get the Negro population to dwindle so that we won't be a majority. Don't ever lose sight of that fact."

—N. Y. *Times* Map

A FRONT LINE in the struggle for justice, Fayette and Haywood Counties in West Tennessee.

White Ministers Make 'Witness'

Twenty-four Southern white ministers made a pilgrimage to Atlanta during the recent imprisonment of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

They went to make "public witness" against segregation and said in a statement:

"We believe it is past time for the Church to stop equivocating about racial discrimination . . . We believe that the consciences of Christian citizens have been awakened in recent months as never before . . . ."

Kentucky Baptists Open Hospitals

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—The General Association of Baptists in Kentucky voted in convention here to open its three hospitals to Negroes. They are in Lexington, Paducah and Louisville, where a School of Nursing will also be integrated.

The action came on motion of a Louisville minister, the Rev. Henry Beach, who said it was a "matter of Christian principle." There was some opposition and debate, but when the vote was taken it was a resounding "aye."

Need Is Great

Many Negroes will be hungry in West Tennessee this winter unless more help is forthcoming. More than anything else they need money. Send funds for Fayette County to John McFerren, Rt. 4, Box 133, Somerville, Tenn.; for Haywood County to C. P. Boyd, Route 1, Box 182, Stanton, Tenn. Or you can send them to SCEF, 822 Perdido St., New Orleans, La., to be forwarded.

The Patriot also urges its readers to write the major oil companies again, as they did last summer protesting the boycott of John McFerren. Urge them to also break the boycott against Scott Franklin. And urge Federal officials to take criminal action against those in West Tennessee who are engineering the boycott.

Freedom Drink-In

A NEW IDEA, in the integration movement is the drink-in. It originated in Florida, where several groups of citizens throughout the state gathered in private homes, feasted on milk only, and contributed money to be sent to Richard Parker, white student who was jailed in Jacksonville for taking part in sit-ins. After Parker's release (see November Patriot), the same plan was used to raise money for other integration work. Here the two women who originated the drink-in idea, Mrs. William McMillam (left) and Mrs. Don Calhoun (third from left), chat with some of their guests at the first drink-in, for which they were hostesses in Port Orange, Fla. Mrs. Calhoun reports that the idea is spreading to other parts of the country and suggests that the "sacrificial meal" is a plan that can be used anywhere as a means of identifying with and helping those who are sacrificing for freedom.

Braden Case Is Heard

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Four of the justices of the U.S. Supreme Court were critical of the House Un-American Activities Committee when they heard the appeal of Carl Braden, an SCEF field secretary and editor, on Nov. 17.

The justices also heard the appeal of Frank Wilkinson, civil liberties worker, who was also sentenced to a year for contempt for refusing to cooperate with the Committee in Atlanta in July, 1958.

Braden's case was presented in briefs and arguments by Leonard B. Boudin, New York, general counsel for the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee; John M. Coe, the Rt. Rev. C. Ewbank Tucker, Conrad J. Lynn, and Victor Rabinowitz. Rowland Watts, staff counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union, and Nanette Dembitz represented Wilkinson.

It may be several weeks, or even months, before a decision in the cases. Meantime, readers of The Southern *Patriot* are urged to write their Congressman before Congress meets Jan. 3 and urge him to support efforts to abolish the Committee.

U. T. Integrates

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.—Trustees of the University of Tennessee voted to admit Negro students on the undergraduate level, beginning immediately. They acted after receiving a request for a policy change from five campus religious organizations. Included were Methodists, Presbyterians, Episcopalians, Baptists and Catholics.

Prince Edward County Is America's Tragedy

(Continued from Page 1)

tion themselves, they are imbued with fierce determination and pride.

For example, they are very concerned about their public image. When a photographer aproaches, they discourage pictures unless they feel that the photographer is from a friendly news source. And they frankly state: "Mr., you ought to ask me first before taking that picture."

When I first noticed Orlando "Bootsie" Burrell, he was sitting on the porch of Dean's Luncheonette calling aloud the numbers in a large gray book given him by a salesman who passed through town a few weeks ago. It was entitled "Descriptive Statistics by Teaching Machines, Inc."

"Six, six, five, and this here is a four. That's right, isn't it?" Bootsie asked.

Bootsie's would-be classmate, 7-year-old Marylyn Reid, doesn't fare much better. She is living with her grandmother in an adjoining county and going to school there. Her day begins at 5:30 a.m. when she gets up in order to be ready for the transportation which arrives at 6 a.m. to take her to school. She doesn't return home until 5:30 that evening.

—Photo by Len Holt

SCHOOLROOMS ARE EMPTY, WEEDS GROW HIGH

There are perhaps few communities which could have withstood the pressures to withdraw the integration suits or to set up a private school system for Negroes as the segregationist would have had it. Few communities, however, have a Rev. L. Francis Griffin or a William A. Reid, Negro leaders who have worked feverishly to justify the hopes of the parents of 1,700 colored students.

A third annual prayer pilgrimage for public schools will be held in Farmville, Va., Monday, January 2, with appeals directed to Federal officials to take immediate action to see that public schools are provided in Prince Edward County, for the benefit of both Negro and white children.

The pilgrimage will be sponsored by the Virginia Christian Leadership Conference, an affiliate of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, headed by Dr. M. L. King, Jr. The Patriot urges all its readers, who live close enough, to participate.

For details, contact Dr. Milton A. Reid, VCLC president, 236 Harrison St., Petersburg, Va. Pilgrims will be asked to bring contributions to assist the P. E. County Christian Association training centers.

Confronting Griffin and Reid daily are the discouragements as one more family moves out of the county and another call comes in asking: "Anything new on the court case?"

Before one concludes that there is little hope for Prince Edward County public schools, some of the positive elements need consideration. There is pressure among white parents to open the schools. This was reflected in a tie vote of the School Board a few months ago which prevented sale of the school property to the private white foundation operating the make-shift schools for whites.

Most encouraging of all is a scene that takes place almost every evening on a large open field. Here a vigorous game of "touch" football is played. Like all football games, there are two teams.

But unlike many games of football in Virginia and the rest of the South, the pass may be thrown by the ebony hued quarterback who worked earlier during the day at a tobacco warehouse instead of going to school. And the teenager who catches—or fumbles—the pass may be the blond, blue-eyed son of one of the school teachers at the private, white segregated school operated in the Baptist church.

For those who play together in the evenings cannot learn together during the day . . . in Prince Edward County, Virginia.

Time to Act

Farmville, Va., should rest heavy on the conscience of every American. Write your congressman and senators and urge that the new Congress enact legislation empowering the Federal Government to establish schools in areas where local officials refuse to provide them.

And funds are needed. Since this story was written, the training centers for Negro children have been reopened, but they cannot continue unless outside help comes. Send contributions to the Prince Edward County Christian Association, c/o the Rev. L. Francis Griffin, P.O. Box 464, Farmville, Va. And you can send supplies: pencils, construction paper, crayons, etc.